

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently amended) A method for distributing documents, comprising:
2 producing a first identifier adapted for association with a first document, the first
3 identifier including first information indicative of a first server configured to create the first
4 document in an original document format;
5 transmitting the first identifier from the first server to a client based upon at least
6 a request from the client to create the first document on the first server in the original document
7 format;
8 associating the first identifier by the client with the first document;
9 transmitting a copy of the first document in the original document format from the
10 client to the first server;
11 receiving a distribution list associated with the first document, the distribution list
12 identifying a second server;
13 transmitting a commit request to the first server; ~~and~~
14 in response to the commit request, transmitting a copy of the first document from
15 the first server to the second server identified by the distribution list, the first server and the
16 second server thereafter responsive to one or more download requests for one or more copies of
17 the first document, the download requests containing the first information;
18 in response to receiving a second document representative of a modified version
19 of the first document, determining the server that created the first document in the original
20 document format based on the first information; and
21 propagating a copy of the second document to the server that created the first
22 document in the original document format based on the distribution list.

1 2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the
2 distribution list associated with the first document comprises receiving the distribution list
3 identifying one or more other servers different from the first server.

1 3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further including receiving
2 a notification list associated with the first document, the notification list identifying one or more
3 users.

1 4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein transmitting the
2 copy of the first document from the first server to the second server identified by the distribution
3 list further includes[[ing]] receiving a download request from the second server, and in response
4 thereto initiating a sequence of operations between the first server and the second server so that
5 the first document is transferred from the first server to the second server, the download request
6 including the first information.

5. (Canceled).

1 6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein delivering the
2 copy of the first document from the first server to the second server identified by the distribution
3 list includes transferring the first document to at least one intermediate server to produce an
4 intermediate copy of the first document in the original document format, and transferring the
5 intermediate copy from the at least one intermediate server to the second server.

1 7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein delivering the
2 copy of the first document from the first server to the second server identified by the distribution
3 list comprises:
4 informing the second server of a distribution request; and
5 in response to the distribution request, the second server initiating a sequence of
6 operations with the first server to transfer the first document to the second server.

1 8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein delivering the
2 copy of the first document from the first server to the second server identified by the distribution
3 list comprises:

4 storing second information to a first memory location in the first server;

5 the second server accessing the first memory location to detect for a presence of
6 the second information; and

7 the second server initiating a sequence of operations with the first server wherein
8 the first document is transferred to the second server in response to detecting the presence of the
9 second information.

1 9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further including receiving at
2 the first server ~~[[a]] the second document from the second server, the second document~~
3 ~~representative of a modified version of the first document,~~ the first server storing the second
4 document while retaining the first document, the first server distributing the second document to
5 one or more other servers based on the distribution list.

1 10. (Currently amended) A method for distributing documents, comprising:
2 producing a first identifier adapted for association with a first document, the first
3 identifier including first information indicative of a first server configured to create the first
4 document in an original document format;

5 transmitting the first identifier from the first server to a client based upon at least
6 a request from the client to create the first document on the first server;

7 associating the first identifier with the first document;

8 transmitting a copy of the first document to the first server from the client, the
9 first document in the original document format;

10 receiving a distribution list associated with the first document, the distribution list
11 identifying a second server different from the first server;

12 transmitting a commit request to the first server;

13 in response to the commit request, the first server distributing a copy of the first
14 document to the second server identified by the distribution list; ~~and~~
15 making one or more copies of the first document available for download from the
16 first server and from the second server using at least the first information;
17 in response to receiving a second document representative of a modified version
18 of the first document, determining the server that created the first document in the original
19 document format based on the first information; and
20 propagating a copy of the second document to the server that created the first
21 document in the original document format based on the distribution list.

1 11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the first server
2 distributing the copy of the first document to the second server identified by the distribution list
3 includes transferring the first document to at least one intermediate server to produce an
4 intermediate copy in the original document format, and transferring the intermediate copy from
5 the at least one intermediate server to the second server

1 12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the first server
2 distributing the copy of the first document to the second server identified by the distribution list
3 comprises:
4 informing the second server of a distribution request; and
5 in response to the distribution request, the second server initiating a sequence of
6 operations with the first server to transfer the first document to the second server.

1 13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the first server
2 distributing the copy of the first document to the second server identified by the distribution list
3 comprises:
4 storing a transfer request to a first memory location in the first server;
5 the second server accessing the first memory location to detect for a presence of
6 the transfer request; and

7 the second server initiating a sequence of operations with the first server wherein
8 the first document is transferred to the second server in response to detecting the presence of the
9 transfer request.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the first identifier includes a
2 naming component that is randomly generated.

1 15. (Currently amended) A method for distributing documents, comprising:
2 receiving a first document at an originating server based upon at least a request
3 from a client to create the first document in an original document format on the originating
4 server, the first document having associated therewith a first identifier comprising first
5 information indicative of the originating server;

6 receiving a first distribution list associated with the first document, the first
7 distribution list identifying a first plurality of servers;

8 distributing the first document from the originating server to the first plurality of
9 servers identified by the first distribution list;

10 at each of the first plurality of servers, associating a second identifier with the first
11 document, the second identifier including the first information;

12 in response to receiving a second document at at least one of the first plurality of
13 servers, the second document being a second version of the first document, determining that the
14 at least one of the first plurality of servers is not the originating server that created the first
15 document in the original document format based on the first identifier;

16 retaining the first document and the second document on the at least one of the
17 first plurality of servers; and

18 distributing the second document to a second plurality of servers, the second
19 plurality of servers including at least the originating server.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the first plurality of servers is
2 the same as the second plurality of servers.

1 17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the first plurality of servers is
2 different from the second plurality of servers.

 18. (Canceled).

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the second document is
2 associated with a second distribution list identifying the second plurality of servers.

1 20. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the first identifier is
2 associated with the second document, whereby the second document is accessed by the first
3 identifier.

1 21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein distributing the
2 first document from the originating server to the first plurality of servers identified by the first
3 distribution list includes the originating server initiating a sequence of operations with a second
4 server to transfer a copy of the first document from the originating server to the second server.

1 22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein distributing the
2 first document from the originating server to the first plurality of servers identified by the first
3 distribution list includes transferring a copy of the first document to at least one intermediate
4 computer system to produce an intermediate copy in the original document format, and
5 transferring the intermediate copy from the at least one intermediate computer system to a
6 second server.

1 23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein distributing the
2 first document from the originating server to the first plurality of servers identified by the first
3 distribution list includes informing a second server of a transfer request, and in response thereto
4 the second server initiating a sequence of operations with the originating server to transfer the
5 first document to the second server.

1 24. (Currently amended) A computer program product for document storage
2 and distribution comprising:
3 one or more computer readable media having contained thereon computer
4 program code suitable for being executed on a first server computer,
5 the first server computer having associated therewith first identification
6 information suitable to allow other computers to access the first server computer using the first
7 identification information,
8 the computer program code comprising:
9 first executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
10 receive a first document as an original document in an original document format from a client
11 computer based upon at least a request from the client computer to create the first document on
12 the first server;
13 second executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
14 associate a first identifier with the first document in response to receiving a commit request from
15 the client computer, the first identifier including the first identification information indicative of
16 the first server as the origin server;
17 third executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
18 receive a distribution list identifying a second server computer different than the first server
19 computer; and
20 fourth executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
21 transmit the first document from the first server computer to the second server computer
22 identified by the distribution list; ~~and~~
23 fifth executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
24 respond to one or more download requests comprising the first information for downloading one
25 or more copies of the first document in the original document format;
26 sixth executable code effective for, in response to receiving a second
27 document representative of a modified version of the first document, determining the server that
28 created the first document in the original document format based on the first information; and

29 seventh executable code effective for propagating a copy of the second
30 document to the server that created the first document in the original document format based on
31 the distribution list.

1 25. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 24 further
2 comprising:

3 ~~sixth~~ eighth executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
4 receive a second document from the second server computer, the second document being an
5 original document in the second server computer; and

6 ~~seventh~~ ninth executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
7 assign a third identifier to the second document, the third identifier including second
8 identification information, the second identification information suitable to allow other server
9 computers to access the second server computer using the second identification information.

1 26. (Currently amended) The server computer program product of claim 24
2 further including ~~sixth~~ eighth executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
3 initiate a sequence of operations with the second server computer so that the first document is
4 transferred from the first server computer to the second server computer.

1 27. (Currently amended) The server computer program product of claim 24
2 further including ~~sixth~~ eighth executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
3 signal the second server computer of a transfer request and to interact with a sequence of
4 operations initiated by the second server computer to transfer the first document to the second
5 server computer.

1 28. (Currently amended) The server computer program product of claim 24
2 further including ~~sixth~~ eighth executable code effective for operating the first server computer to
3 store in a first memory location second information indicative of a transfer request, wherein the
4 second server computer accesses the first memory location to detect for a presence of the second
5 information, the second server computer initiating a sequence of operations with the first server

6 computer wherein the first document is transferred to the second server computer in response to
7 detecting the presence of the second information.

29-32. (Canceled).

1 33. (Currently amended) A method for distributing documents, comprising:
2 associating a document identifier with a first document, the document identifier
3 specifying a first server, from one or more servers configured to create documents for
4 distribution, that created the first document;
5 storing the first document;
6 receiving a distribution list associated with the first document, the distribution list
7 identifying one or more other servers;
8 in response to receiving a commit request, transmitting the first document from
9 the first server to the one or more other servers identified by the distribution list;
10 determining in response to a second document representative of a modified
11 version of the first document that the first server created the first document for distribution;
12 receiving ~~[[a]]~~ the second document representative of a modified version of the
13 first document at the first server based on the distribution list;
14 storing the second document while retaining the first document; and
15 transmitting the second document to the one or more other servers identified by
16 the distribution list.